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seems that all isolated tendrils, entirely free or fixed only by one of their extremities^s coil in one uniform direction through their whole length: that all those whose ends are fastened produce at least two helices of opposite kinds; that tendrils free at both ends coil most often from left to right, just as those which have not been separated from the plant; that isolated tendrils which are fastened at the summit, are as apt to coil in one direction as the other. The helices formed by the same tendril ought always to be an even number.—[Ed.]

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.—*American Journal of Science and Arts*, March. Dr. Gray has a short note on *Dextrorse and Sinistrorse*, or which is right and which is left, as applied to twining, overlapping in flower buds, and course of the spiral in phyllotaxis? Two opposite views are held, the one of which supposes the observer within the coil, the other outside. The former view was adopted by Linnæus, Muhl, Palm, A. Braun, Alph. DeCandolle, and others, the latter by Bentham, Darwin, and Dr. Gray, and it seems to us to be the much more reasonable and natural view. The *Botanical Necrology* of 1876 contains the names of Adolphe Theodore Brongniart, John Joseph Bennett, Christian Gottfried Ehrenberg, Leopold Fueckel, Edward Newman, Joseph Carson, M. D., and Wilhelm Hofmeister.

American Naturalist, March.—In an article entitled, "Hints on the Origin of the Flora and Fauna of the Florida Keys," L. F. DePourtales comes to the conclusion that the vegetation of the Florida Keys is largely West Indian. A list of Lichens found growing within twenty miles of Yale College is contributed by F. W. Hall. Some large trunks of *Kalmia latifolia* are put on record as occurring on the extreme western border of South Carolina. "One trunk, at a foot or so from the ground, measured four feet one and a quarter inches in circumference, and, rising without division, maintains a size approaching this and gradually lessening, for six or seven feet. C. S. Sargent has a note on the "Dichogamy of Agave" confirming by observation Dr. Engelmann's statement, in his monograph on Agave, that the flowers of the genus are "vespertine or nocturnal, and proteranderous."

Bulletin of the Torrey Botanical Club, February.—J. B. Ellis describes eleven new species of Fungi, one *Stereum*, one *Pistillaria*, one *Hysterium*, one *Dermatea*, three *Pezizas*, and four *Sphærias*. Charles H. Peck describes a new fungus found at Westchester, Pa. Geo. E. Davenport notices some variations in *Lomaria* and *Polypodium*.

The Gardener's Monthly, March.—Mr. Meehan has an interesting note on the "Interpretation of Varying Forms" which also appears in the Proceedings of the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences. We make the following extract: He said that "on a recent visit to the Academy, the distinguished botanist, Dr. Engelmann, had pointed out that some oaks had lobed leaves even in early infancy, while others had entire leaves; but that those which had early lobed leaves assumed more entire leaves when mature, and those which had entire leaves when young, had lobed leaves when fully grown."

Field and Forest, March.—Mr. J. W. Chickering gives a short list of some local plant catalogues.

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